

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 1-5; and add claims 18-22, as shown in the following Listing of Claims.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

6. (original): A shutter manufacturing method comprising the steps of:
defining a plurality of attached stile components comprising a common substrate,
said attached stile components having opposing faces and inside edges;
laminating said faces on said common substrate with a first laminate so as to
create a finished substrate;
cutting said finished substrate so as create full grooves along said inside edges;
separating said attached stile components into a plurality of prefinished stiles; and
assembling a shutter frame with said prefinished stiles.

7. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 6 further
comprising the step of installing a plurality of elongated, flexible inserts into said full
grooves of said prefinished stiles, said inserts defining pin holes along the length of said
inserts.

8. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 7 further
comprising the step of constructing a plurality of flexible end caps each having one of a
plurality of stile buttons.

9. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 8 further
comprising the step of snapping said stile buttons into said pin holes so as to install said
end caps along the length of said stiles.

10. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 9 further comprising the steps of:

defining a plurality of attached louver components comprising a second common substrate, said attached louver components having opposing louver faces, opposing louver edges and opposing louver ends;

laminating said second common substrate with said laminate so as to finish said louver faces;

milling said second common substrate so as shape said louver edges;

laminating said second common substrate with a second laminate so as to finish said louver edges; and

separating said attached louver components into a plurality of prefinished louvers.

11. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 10 further comprising the step of removably attaching said louver ends to corresponding ones of said end caps so as to install said louvers within said shutter frame.

12. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

constructing an elongated, flexible link bar defining a plurality of link bar holes along the length of said link bar;

configuring said end caps each with one of a plurality of link bar buttons; and

snapping said link bar buttons into corresponding ones of said link bar holes so as to interconnect said louvers.

13. (original): A shutter manufacturing method comprising the steps of:
applying a first laminate to a surface of a substrate to form a laminated sheet;
cutting said laminated sheet to a predetermined width to form a laminated board;
cutting said laminated board to a predetermined length to form a prefinished shutter component; and
assembling said prefinished shutter component into a shutter.

14. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

cutting said laminated sheet at said predetermined width to form a second laminated board; and

cutting one of said laminated board and said second laminated board at said predetermined length to form a second prefinished shutter component; and

assembling said second prefinished shutter component into said shutter.

15. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

milling an edge of said laminated board to form a milled edge; and

applying a second laminate to said milled edge.

16. (original): The manufacturing method according to claim 15 wherein:

said substrate is manufactured wood; and

said prefinished shutter component is a generally planar louver.

17. (original): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 16 further comprising the steps of:

drilling a link hole into said milled edge; and

gluing a link into said link hole.

18. (new): A shutter manufacturing method comprising the steps of:

providing a laminated manufactured wood substrate sheet;

identifying a plurality of attached shutter components configured edge-to-edge and end-to-end so as to comprise said substrate sheet;

separating said attached shutter components into a plurality of prefinished shutter components; and

incorporating said prefinished shutter components into a shutter assembly.

19. (new): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 18 wherein said separating step comprises the substeps of:

cutting along edge portions of said attached shutter components; and
cutting along end portions of said attached shutter components.

20. (new): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 19 further comprising the step of milling said edge portions of said attached shutter components.

21. (new): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 20 further comprising the step of laminating said edge portions of said attached shutter components.

22. (new): The shutter manufacturing method according to claim 21 further comprising the step of laminating said end portions so as to provide a plurality of generally planar, prefinished louvers.